CRAFTS WITH KIDS MAKE FESTIVE GIFTS LIKE TRUFFLES {page 14}

TUCK INTO PRETTY POCKETS OF TURKEY FOOD {page 15}

LOYALTY
WAR THROUGH THE EYES OF A HORSE {page 11}

WINNIPEG metro®

Monday, December 19, 2011
www.metronews.ca

News worth sharing.

North Korea's Kim Jong Il dead

Death announced by state television from the North Korean capital, Pyongyang

Kim Jong Il, North Korea's mercurial and enigmatic leader whose iron rule and nuclear ambitions for his isolated communist nation dominated world security fears for more than a decade, has died. He was 69.

Kim's death was announced Monday by state television from the North Korean capital, Pyongyang.

Kim is believed to have suffered a stroke in 2008 but appeared relatively vigorous in photos and video from recent trips to China and Russia and in numerous trips around the country carefully documented by state media.

Birth legend

- North Korean legend has it that Kim was born on Mount Paekdu, one of Korea's most cherished sites, in 1942, a birth heralded in the heavens by a pair of rainbows and a brilliant new star.
- Soviet records, however, indicate he was born in Siberia, in 1941.

The country's "Dear Leader" — reputed to have had a taste for cigars, cognac and gourmet cuisine — was believed to have had diabetes and heart disease.

The news came as North Korea prepared for a hereditary succession. Kim Jong Il inherited power after his father, revered North Korean founder Kim Il Sung, died in 1994. In September 2010, Kim Jong Il unveiled his third son, the twenty-something Kim Jong Un, as his successor, putting him in high-ranking posts.

Kim Jong Il had been groomed for 20 years to lead the communist nation founded by his guerrilla fighter-turned-politician father and built according to the principle of "juche," or self-reliance.

Even with a successor, there had been some fear among North Korean observers of a behind-the-scenes power struggle or nuclear instability upon the elder Kim's death.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

▶ Kim Jong Il

▶ Kitty Bernes shops in American Apparel in Osborne Village Sunday. Bernes said this year she's being creative by making personalized home crafts with specially bought pieces.

Retailers see drop in business

Online shopping may have added to downturn, some speculate

As consumers begin to feel the pinch this holiday season, so have retailers.

The story was the same at stores in Osborne Village, and both Polo Park and St. Vital malls — people are spending, but they're spending less than they did for the holiday season in 2010.

"People are walking around and not buying anything. They're not carrying any bags," said John Pachuk, who has been an employee at West Point shoes in St. Vital Mall for two years. "The dollar only goes so far."

According to a 2010 survey by Deloitte, 2011 was predicted to be a conservative spending year for Canadians. Pollsters found 55 per cent of Canadian consumers planned to spend the same amount this holiday season as they did last year, while 40 per cent planned on spending less.

That prediction seems to be holding true, according to shoppers Metro Winnipeg talked to.

"We're not spending as much per person (as we were last year)," said Dale Evanyshyn citing the economy as the reason.

Store owners and managers echoed that thought.

"Last year was much better than this year," said Lina Raso, store manager at Fruits and Passion in Polo Park.

"A lot of it has to do with the recession out there. (The customer) is trying to save money or spend it on something more important."

"People are not spending as much as they did in 2009," added Brent Pielech, store manager at American Apparel in Osborne Village.

"People don't have (as high of a) disposable income."

Pielech noted most of his customers are students who have to make their dollar stretch.

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Manitoba deficit nears $1 billion

The province is blaming this year's flood and economic downturn for pushing its deficit to almost $1 billion, twice what the government had projected.

In the quarterly fiscal update, released Friday, Finance Minister Stan Struthers said the new deficit forecast is $989 million, up from $438 million.

The province shelled out hundreds of millions in unbudgeted expenses because of the flooding. Struthers projects flood costs will likely hit $815 million by the end of this fiscal year.

Some of that is covered by Ottawa, but Manitoba's costs are still much higher than expected. "At the end of the second quarter, $437 million has been expended on the spring flood," the fiscal report says. That figure balloons even higher when the $159 million spent to dig an emergency channel to lower the level of Lake Manitoba is factored in, as well as repairs for roads and bridges.

But Conservative Leader Hugh McFadyen said the huge deficit can't all be blamed on the weather. The NDP has mismanaged the economy and spent itself into a hole, he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ This year's flooding has doubled the deficit, a report says.

Next up: Occupy Walmart

Occupy Winnipeg activists set sights on retail giant ◐ Some customers receptive, pledging not to shop there ◐ But at least one yelled obscenities

SEAN LEDWICH/FOR METRO

SEAN LEDWICH
WINNIPEG@METRONEWS.CA

▶ A police officer looks on as debOrah Lawrence hands a leaflet to a car passenger entering the Wal-Mart parking lot on Saturday.

Occupy Winnipeg has put Wal-Mart on its Christmas list, but not because protesters think the multinational retailer has been good.

About 10 Occupy Winnipeg activists showed up Saturday at Wal-Mart's Empress Street store to hand out leaflets to Christmas shoppers.

The folded handbills, with "Slave money. Live better?" printed on one cover and a Christmas message on the other, accused Wal-Mart of perpetuating child labour in developing countries, discriminating against female employees and using aggressive anti-union tactics.

"We're trying to let the shoppers know what they're supporting," activist debOrah Lawrence said. (The spelling of her first name is correct.)

The protesters were asked to leave the store, and after about 30 minutes they gathered in the parking lot.

A store manager, flanked by security, eventually came out to tell them police had been called.

Police arrived at about 1:30 p.m. and spoke to two protesters handing out leaflets to cars entering and exiting at the parking lot entrance.

Const. Natalie Aitken said the police were concerned that protesters stay on the sidewalk for their own safety.

"No arrests were made and they were polite when officers spoke with them," she said.

Retired teacher Emelene Thompson approached Lawrence to thank her for the leaflet.

She told Metro after reading the information that she had decided not to patronize the store.

"It did change my opinion," she said. "This is something right I'm doing, and I feel good about it."

Wal-Mart Canada did not respond to an email request for comment.

Hay bales ignite at Occupy camp

Fire revisited the Occupy Winnipeg camp on Saturday, but this time the only damage was to horse feed.

Twenty-five bales of hay were destroyed by the blaze, which was called in just after 3 a.m.

"A rescue crew went to the scene and found it was contained to a stack of hay bales," city spokeswoman Tammy Melesko said, adding the fire was quickly put out with no injuries.

The bales were in a stack next to Memorial Drive. They had been placed there by occupiers after the province ordered them removed from the camp last week.

On Thursday, the province ordered a yurt and two tents taken down by 10:30 a.m. Sunday. As of 3:30 p.m., occupiers said nobody from the province had followed up on the order. SEAN LEDWICH

1 news

Canada's transport regulator has ruled airlines must protect passengers who are allergic to cats, and that could mean Fluffy will have to stay home. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

Liberal Leader Bob Rae says the troubled First Nations reserve of Attawapiskat is 'our Third World.' Video at metronews.ca/video

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Progress in murder cases

ELISHA DACEY
@METRONEWS.CA

Toronto police have confirmed the arrest of two men in connection to the death of a Winnipeg woman last month.

Leanne Freeman, 23, was found fatally shot in the early morning hours of Nov. 29 in Toronto's Port Lands area. Joseph Beauregard of Whitby, Ont. will face a charge of first degree murder. John Ash will face a charge of accessory after the fact.

Meanwhile, Winnipeg Police said they have arrested a man in the homicide of Dominique McCann. McCann, 19, was found in a home in the 400 block of Selkirk Avenue Dec. 2 with massive upper body injuries.

HANDOUTS

▶ McCann, left, and Freeman

Police said Saturday McCann was walking with a 25-year-old man Dec. 1 around 9 p.m. when the man physically assaulted her. She managed to make her way to a home on Selkirk Avenue where police were notified. She died in hospital. Donald Jacob Girard, 25, is facing charges of second degree murder.

– WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Facebook plea aimed at saving local business

Restaurant faces extinction as chain store plans expansion

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC
WINNIPEG@METRONEWS.CA

A university student has started a Facebook petition to save a local businesses.

Jackie Gudz, 27, an education student and five-year Osborne area resident, started the Facebook page Dec. 9 to prevent Shoppers Drug Mart on the corner of Osborne Street and Roslyn Road from expanding its current 10,000 sq. ft. location by a further 7,600 sq. ft.

The expansion would mean the closure of Vietnamese restaurant Vi-Ann.

"I couldn't stand by and not do anything. The only way to get information out there quickly was to use Facebook," said Gudz.

"Osborne is the last unique area in the city and putting a (box store) Shoppers Drug Mart (in it) opens it up for other big box stores to come into the area. It hurts smaller businesses in the area."

Currently, the owner of Vi-Ann and area residents have started a petition to prevent the expansion.

"We think the expansion will benefit the community," said Tammy Smitham, director of communications for Shoppers Drug Mart.

Smitham said the expansion is part of the company's plan to expand all their Shoppers stores to 14,000 sq. ft. in order to meet the needs of consumers.

"In many cases when (we're building or expanding) we look to the streetscape and we try to do our part to match the look (of the area) ... We're committed to being community-minded and local in our approach."

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC/METRO WINNIPEG

▶ Shoppers Drug Mart wants to expand its store to almost twice its size.

Smitham said the company will be working with the city, area councilor Jenny Gerbasi, and residents to address any issues that might arise.

The expansion proposal will be looked at the Board of Adjustments meeting on Dec. 21 in the West Committee Room at City Hall at 5 p.m.

Council nod for new parking strategy

City Council voted to adopt the new downtown parking strategy on Wednesday.

The strategy is based on a 10-year plan that focuses on five key points: using parking to build up the downtown economy, use on-street parking to support area businesses, provide alternatives to surface parking, working with partners to improve transportation downtown, and to implement parking policies and projects that contribute to sustainability of the city.

During the meeting, Osborne House Chief Executive Officer Barbara Judt and local blogger Marty Gold took council to task for not consulting with area businesses and residents.

"It's the elephant in the room," said Gold. "There were no social service agencies represented in the consultation."

"Why was there no consultation in regards to discussing parking in the area?" asked Judt. "They're making decisions but nobody is realizing the impact it has on people."

Judt said no consultation was done when a bike corridor was established in her area and it had a major impact on her organization due to traffic rerouting.

The proposal was passed with no recorded vote count except for Coun. Harvey Smith who wanted to go on record as being opposed to the plan.

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC

News in pictures

PHOTOS
1. CHRISD.CA
2. METRO WINNIPEG FILE PHOTO
3. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS
4. MAURICE BRUNEAU/CHRISD.CA
5. YOUTUBE SCREEN SHOT

1 A heater in the garage was deemed the culprit behind a $3 million fire on Shoreline Drive, Friday. No one was hurt, but the house was destroyed. METRO

2 Waterfront Drive will be open to drivers on Monday afternoon, but will close again in the spring as construction on the new Disraeli Bridges continues. METRO

3 Beloved former Winnipeg Jet Teemu Selanne waves to the crowd at Saturday's game after getting a standing ovation for stepping onto the ice. The class act signed autographs for dozens of fans waiting for him at 3 a.m. Friday when the bus pulled in. METRO

4 Thick smoke poured out of a Beverley Street apartment complex sending 18 people fleeing for their lives in a fire Saturday morning. The fire is not considered suspicious. METRO

5 Winnipegger Sean Quigley's rendition of the Little Drummer Boy officially went viral this past weekend, surpassing one million views. See the full story at metronews.ca/Winnipeg. METRO

Man charged in N.Y. burning death

Senior citizen died after being set on fire in apartment elevator Suspect says the woman owed him $2,000

A man charged with dousing a woman in flammable liquid and tossing a Molotov cocktail on her in an elevator told police he set her on fire because he was angry that she owed him $2,000, authorities said yesterday.

Jerome Isaac was arrested yesterday on murder and arson charges in the death of 73-year-old Deloris Gillespie.

The 47-year-old Isaac reeked of gasoline when he entered a police station overnight and implicated himself in Gillespie's death, New York Police Department spokesman Paul Browne said.

Gillespie was ambushed in the elevator of her Brooklyn apartment building on Saturday afternoon, Browne said.

NYPD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ This surveillance photo shows the suspect with accelerant in his hand.

The suspect had been waiting for her when the elevator doors opened to the fifth floor of her building in Prospect Heights, police said.

"It was apparent he knew she was on the elevator," Browne said.

After setting Gillespie ablaze, Isaac went to his apartment building just blocks away and set a fire there, Browne said. He then hid on a roof before turning himself in to police, Browne said.

Isaac told police that Gillespie owed him $2,000 from some work he had done for her, Browne said.

The attack happened shortly after 4 p.m., lasted about a minute and was recorded by two video cameras, including one inside the small elevator.

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Last convoy of U.S. troops exits Iraq

Nearly 4,500 Americans and more than 100,000 Iraqis died during the war U.S. spent $800 billion in Iraq

Outside it was pitch dark. The six American soldiers couldn't see much of the desert landscape streaming by outside the small windows of their armoured vehicle. They were hushed and exhausted from an all-night drive — part of the last convoy of U.S. troops to leave Iraq during the final moment of a nearly nine-year war.

As dawn broke Sunday, a small cluster of Iraqi soldiers along the highway waved goodbye to the departing American troops.

"My heart goes out to the Iraqis," said Warrant Officer John Jewell. "The innocent always pay the bill."

When they finally crossed the sand berm that separates Iraq from Kuwait, illuminated by floodlights and crisscrossed with barbed wire, the mood inside Jewell's vehicle was subdued. No cheers. No hugs. Mostly just relief.

His comrade, Sgt. Ashley Vorhees, mustered a bit more excitement. "I'm out of Iraq," she said. "It's all smooth sailing from here."

The war that began eight years and nine months ago cost nearly 4,500 American and well more than 100,000 Iraqi lives and $800 billion US.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iraqi reaction

- **"We are glad** to see the last U.S. soldier leaving the country today," said Said Hassan, 25, the owner of money exchange shop in Baghdad. "It is an important day in Iraq's history, but the most important thing now is the future of Iraq," he added.
- **"The Americans** have left behind them a country that is falling apart and an Iraqi army and security forces that have a long way ahead to be able to defend the nation and the people."

A soldier celebrates as the final section of the last American military convoy to depart Iraq from the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division crosses over the border into Kuwait Sunday. Around 500 troops ended their presence at Camp Adder, the last remaining American base, and departed in the final American military convoy out of Iraq.

Death toll unknown after oil platform capsizes

An oil-drilling platform capsized and later sank amid fierce storms off Russia's east coast Sunday, plunging dozens of workers into the churning, icy waters. Four were confirmed dead and 49 were missing.

The Transportation Ministry said the Kolskaya platform started sinking after a strong wave broke some of its equipment and the portholes in the crew's dining room. One five-metre wave washed away the platform's lifeboats, leaving the crew with no escape.

The Emergencies Ministry said in a statement yesterday 67 people had been aboard the platform as it was being towed about 200 kilometres off the coast of Sakhalin Island.

Fourteen people were rescued from the sea by the ship that had been towing the platform.

Further rescue efforts were being hampered by the severe weather conditions, officials said.

A spokeswoman for the Emergency Ministry in the Far East, told the Associated Press that the rescue team had spotted four lifeless bodies in the water, but had not yet been able to retrieve them.

The Kolskaya was built in Finland in 1985 and is owned by Russian offshore exploration firm Arktikmorneftegazrazvedka.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARKTIKMORNEFTEGAZRAZVEDKA/HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this undated handout photo, the oil drilling platform Kolskaya is seen in the Sea of Okhotsk.

Oil platform

- **There were no immediate reports** of environmental damage, and that would be unlikely since the platform was not drilling for oil when it capsized and carried little fuel.
- **The Investigative Committee** yesterday opened a probe into the accident and said that a breach of safety regulations or weather may be to blame.

Rescuers search for ship survivors

Rescuers battled high waves on Sunday as they searched for 200 asylum seekers missing and feared dead after their overcrowded ship sank off Indonesia's main island of Java. So far only 33 people have been plucked alive from the choppy waters.

Two were children, aged 8 and 10, found clinging to the broken debris of the boat five hours after the accident Saturday.

"It's really a miracle they made it," said Kelik Enggar Purwanto, a member of the rescue team, as horrifying accounts emerged of the disaster. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Czech leader dies

Czech leaders and foreign politicians are paying tribute to Vaclav Havel, the dissident playwright who led the 1989 Velvet Revolution that peacefully toppled communism in the former Czechoslovakia. Havel died yesterday at age 75 in his weekend house in northern Czech Republic. The Czech government meets today to declare a period of official mourning.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PETR DAVID JOSEK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Vaclav Havel

CNN star to testify at UK inquiry

Piers Morgan's autobiography made it clear he knew about phone hacking as far back as 2001

CHRIS PIZZELLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ CNN host Piers Morgan

The often colorful and sometimes controversial story of CNN star Piers Morgan's rise to the top will be revisited today when the former editor appears by videolink at a judge-led inquiry into the ethics and practices of Britain's scandal-tarred press.

"So heartwarming that everyone in the U.K. is missing me so much they want me to come home," he joked earlier this year amid demands he return to give evidence to the inquiry, set up by Prime Minister David Cameron following the disclosure that the now-defunct News of the World tabloid had for years illegally eavesdropped on the voice mail messages of public figures.

Actors Hugh Grant and Sienna Miller, and Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling are among those who have given evidence about press abuse, while executives and lawyers for Murdoch's News Corp. have defended the newspaper.

Morgan shot to national prominence when he was picked by Murdoch to run the News of the World at age 28. Under his tenure, the tabloid exposed actor Hugh Grant's liaison with Hollywood prostitute Divine Brown and Princess Diana's late-night phone calls to married art dealer Oliver Hoare. It wasn't all down to good reporting: Morgan has acknowledged he kept his edge in part through bribes paid to informants on rival titles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EUROZONE CRISIS

ECB exec explains exit

A top European Central Bank official has publicly discussed the reasons for his surprise resignation, saying he is not satisfied with the direction Europe's currency union has taken.

Juergen Stark said in an interview in Monday's edition of Germany's Wirtschaftswoche magazine that the ECB had done its job by keeping inflation under control across the eurozone, which it does through adjusting interest rates.

But he said some governments had tolerated excessive wage costs and unsustainable real estate booms that preceded today's debt crisis.

Stark is leaving at the end of the year, two and a half years before the end of his eight-year term on the bank's six-member executive board. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. FRIDAY

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SANTA LIVES ON IN THE 'PEG

URBAN COMPASS

COLIN FAST
METRO WINNIPEG

Eaton's has been gone for more than a decade, The Bay downtown is half the size it used to be, and many Winnipeggers do more shopping online than they do in stores. But one holiday tradition that continues to go strong in our city is visiting Santa at the local mall.

"The market in Winnipeg is very traditional, and we love our Santas," explained Deborah Green, general manager of Polo Park Shopping Centre. "It's an important part of making the holidays special for our shoppers and their children. Unless the whole world changes, I can't see us ever losing our Santa."

Toronto's Eaton Centre caused a minor controversy earlier this year when it announced that after 100 years it was replacing its traditional Santa visits with individual 10-minute long 'Skype with Santa' sessions instead. It's also offering 'Story Time with Santa' events on the weekends.

"As a parent with two little girls, I know how hard it is to get your child bundled up and get them out in the winter season," Meredith Vlitas, Eaton Centre's senior marketing director told the Toronto Star. "We also wanted to make something that was workable for people's schedules, to give them lots of flexibility."

"She points to the large number of teenagers who wait in line with friends to get their photos taken every year as proof the magic of Santa can win over almost anyone."

Thus far, the modern approach is proving popular according to guest services staff at Eaton Centre, who have had parents from across Canada calling to book online chats.

Another popular high-tech option is the personalized Santa videos available through websites like MagicSanta.ca or PortableNorthPole.tv. Users answer some basic questions, upload a few photos, and Santa Claus then sends their loved ones a personalized video greeting. Options exist to customize cute videos for children or slyly funny ones for adults. Google's SendACallFromSanta.com generates similar audio greetings that are sent over the phone.

While the technology-based Santa experiences can be fun, Polo Park's Green says there's something special and nostalgic about being able to share your holiday wishes with the big guy in person.

She points to the large number of teenagers who wait in line with friends to get their photos taken every year as proof the magic of Santa can win over almost anyone.

"I still get my picture taken every year and I'm in my fifties," Green happily admits. "Two of my operations guys came up to me the other day and they were so excited to say 'Hey! We got our picture taken with Santa!'"

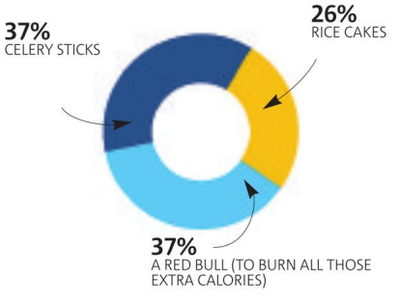
Santa visits continue at Polo Park and all other local malls until the end of the week.

Colin Fast is a corporate communicator who blogs about life in Winnipeg at policyfrog.com.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Since Santa obviously needs to lose a few pounds, what health-conscious snack should you leave him to eat?

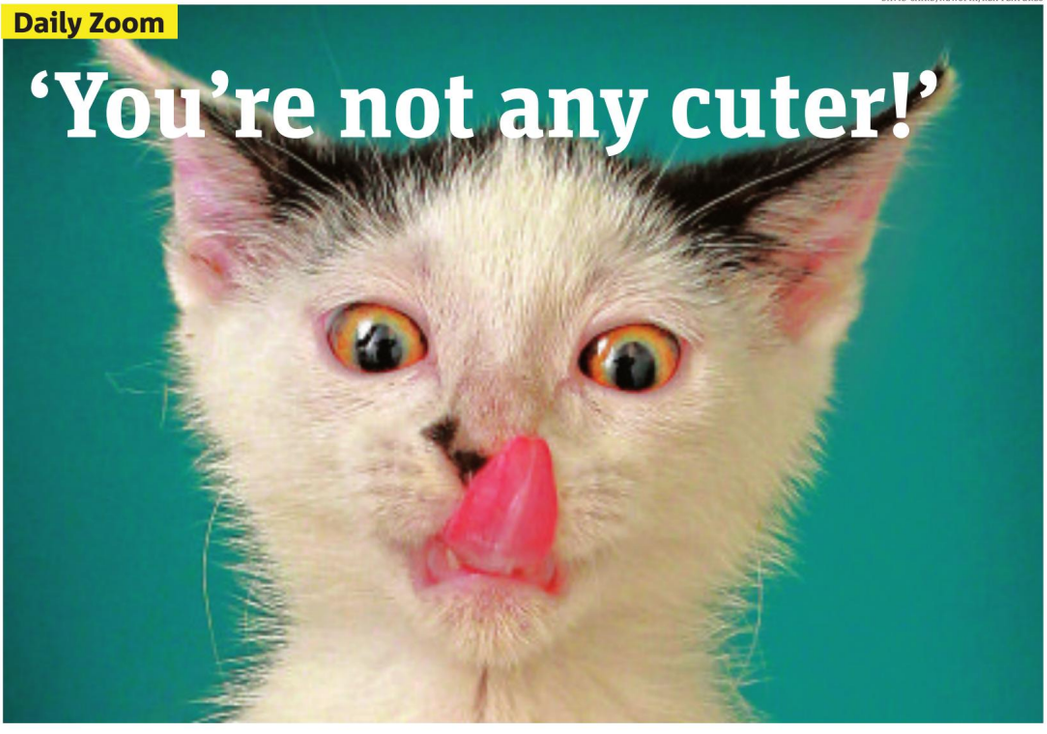


Local tweets

- **@Denezy:** I am in Winnipeg for the next two weeks and would make a great date for a #NHLJets game. I am cute, funny & I even buy the beer. #Justsaying
- **@schneekka:** Winnipeg has SO many talented photographers, both professional and not. I love this city.
- **@RBeilfuss:** Winnipeg still figuring out how to work their new airport. Flight delayed by almost an hour, and no board notes or anything. Le sigh.
- **@CountBettman:** This tribute to Teemu Selanne is almost as epic as the ovation I got when I brought hockey back to Winnipeg
- **@Smoars:** These protesters r all around #winnipeg! Saw some last night @BestBuy by #polopark tossing pamphlets, about going into credit card debt!
- **@LoveleeKimber:** It's gonna be a beautiful day in the neighborhood with a high of +2 mid December in #Winnipeg. I have never, but I'll take what we can get.
- **@Stache16:** We let down Teemu tonight, would have been nice to win for him in Winnipeg, great fans in that town though...

DAVID CAIRD/NEWSPIX/REX FEATURES

Daily Zoom



Cat must learn how to behave

AUSTRALIA. Don't tell this cheeky cat it's rude to stare and stick out its tongue: poor Buzz is hearing-impaired. At cat obedience class at Prahran Vet Hospital in Melbourne, this 10-week-old kitten has to learn hand commands to know how to behave better. By the looks of it, he's still got his work cut out for him. METRO WORLD NEWS

"He's been dumped and is going to be harder to re-home, so I've had to teach him to pay attention to me. Already he can high-10 with both paws over his head."
DR. NICOLE HOSKIN, VETERINARIAN

'Give me a treat, then I'll obey'

TRAINING. Felines can be taught to do many of the same things that dogs can: sit, stand and fetch things. The two species have to be trained in different ways, though. Dogs learn just to please their owners, but cats only pay attention for food rewards. "I find roast-chicken rewards work the best," Dr. Nicole Hoskin says. METRO WORLD NEWS

All bets off with 'psychic' feline

CATS IN NEWS. Buzz is not the only domesticated cat to make world headlines in recent days. One Italian feline by the moniker of FastidiousCat has been trending as the new Paul the Octopus after successfully predicting Serie A soccer powerhouse Udinese's last four fixtures.
METRO WORLD NEWS

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HANDOUT

▶ War Horse is the story of a horse named Joey, raised by a farm boy played by actor Jeremy Irvine.

Through a horse's eyes

Steven Spielberg's World War I epic is told through the journey of a thoroughbred ◐ Emotional drama explores the themes of loyalty and survival

STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Whether we're talking about the popular stage play or the book upon which it was based, when it comes to awards, War Horse has always been a front-runner. That is something Steven Spielberg may be counting on with his latest movie adaptation.

"Yes, it was a children's story to start but it has, at its heart, great pain and suffering," admitted the book's author Michael Murpurgo. "And that's not necessarily a very attractive prospect for a family show but (Spielberg's) pulled it off unbelievably."

The acclaimed film (which hits theatres Christmas Day) is definitely the stuff of award season. An emotional drama surveying the First World War through the eyes of an incredible thoroughbred, War Horse deals in themes of loyalty and survival during a war of attrition that star Emily Watson suggests makes one of Spielberg's most inspired films.

"The great achievement of the film is the perspective it puts on that war," said Watson. "Steven's other films have been about the Second World War, which has a very clear, moral imperative to it. But this war was utterly pointless and taking a horse through the journey of that war is a brilliant way of cutting a cross-section of it and seeing it first-hand and it's really powerful."

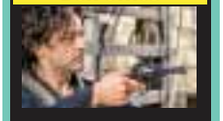
Almost as powerful as the story were the actual horses that played the title role. As honoured as he was to star in the Spielberg film, actor Tom Hiddleston insisted he was only upstaged by his animal co-stars.

"I was shamed at my artifice by their authenticity," said the Thor actor.

"That's really the thing I learned — just to turn up and be there because the horse will do something surprising, which will give you so much more than anything you might have preconceived in your own mind."

2 scene

Box office



Sherlock Holmes is facing his worst enemy: declining crowds at the box office. Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows debuted on top with a $40 million weekend. Overall business was down again. Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked opened at No. 2 with $23.5 million, about half the business the first two Chipmunks movies did on their debut weekends.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beach Boys announce a reunion tour, with Brian Wilson, to mark 50th anniversary

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Sorting out the naughty from the nice

This year's holiday releases are a mixed bag Michael Bublé flirts with Santa, a Stone Temple Pilot gets into reggae and jazz and Gaga wants a white snowman Read on as Metro helps you sort through the music

PAT HEALY
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN BOSTON

Michael Bublé, Christmas

Naughty: The biggest problem with this album is that once you hear it, you'll have to admit that you like Michael Bublé. But if the people you're telling have heard Christmas, then they'll go easy on you.
Nice: Bublé is silly, classy, and so right on-key. Plus, he re-imagines almost every song on this album. Sure, it's a little weird to hear Santa Baby as a vaguely homoerotic May/December come-on, but his torch song treatment of Mariah Carey's All I Want For Christmas Is You unearths a real longing that's missing in Mimi's version.

Glee: The Music, The Christmas Album Vol. 2

Naughty: This album is full of covers, sung with a self-seriousness that brings out the Grinch in us. In Do They Know It's Christmas, when the cast sings the "thank God it's them instead of you" line, we couldn't help but say that exact same thing — then we went and sought out the original version. They keep trying, but no Glee cover has surpassed an original.
Nice: Extraordinary Merry Christmas is like a snow man sugar cookie. It's sweet and you want more of it. But it would taste a lot better if Kelly Clarkson were serving it to us.

She & Him, A Very She & Him Christmas

Naughty: M. Ward's guitar playing is as beautiful as ever and Zooey Deschanel's voice is like the moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow, but it would be nice if there was at least one original track to spice up this 12-song collection. If you're not listening closely to them playing these standards, you might think you're listening to one really long song.
Nice: She & Him switch the she and him roles on Baby It's Cold Outside, so Zooey Deschanel is the one persuading M. Ward to stay just a little bit longer. This long overdue update makes the 1936 song about 50 per cent less date-rapey.

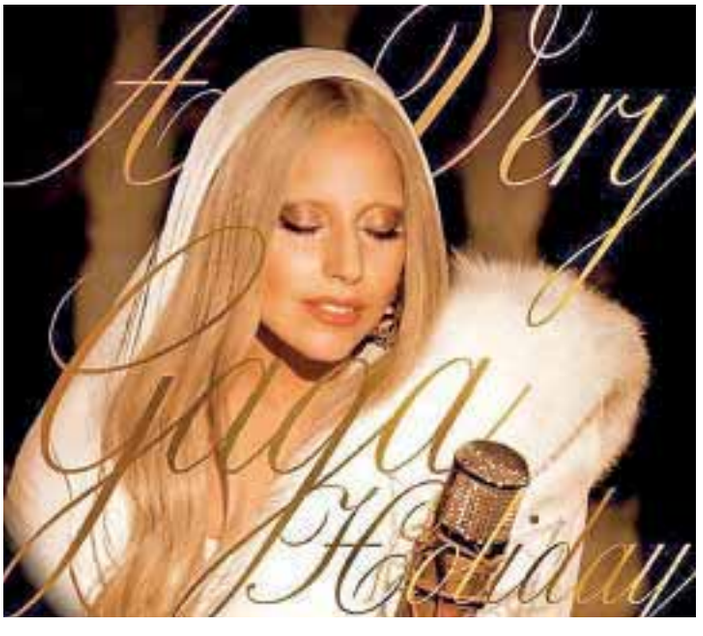
Eldridge Rodriguez, Christmas on the Allston-Brighton Line

Naughty: The major downfall of this three-song EP is that it's only a three-song EP.
Nice: The way that E.R. integrates pre-existing holiday lines into his originals is effortless. "I've got my records on, but all I play is Silent Night," he sings on Baby I'm Alone Tonight (Christmas Time). And though his narrator is certainly having a blue Christmas, there's a playfulness to the presentation, evident from the title of the song Christmas Eve (At Old Country Buffet).

Mariah Carey & John Legend, When Christmas Comes

Naughty: This song from Mariah's 2010 album, Merry Christmas II You, was rolled out as a single last month. With its department store horns and not-so-smooth R&B groove, the tune sounds like it was recorded for a made-for-basic-cable-television movie. There are little sleigh bells in the recording and the lyrics are cringe-worthy, with lines like "I can't wait to unwrap your love," mixed with a light "Jesus is the reason for the season" reference.

Nice: The album artwork is actually pretty cool, made to look like a well-worn record cover in the tradition of the Carpenters.



Lady Gaga, A Very Gaga Holiday

Naughty: This four-song EP, culled from her A Very Gaga Thanksgiving TV special, is only 25 per cent seasonal.
Nice: Only Mother Monster would have the audacity to add another verse to White Christmas. It's a stupid verse about her "dreaming of a white snowman," but it's kind of funny and her voice is right on.

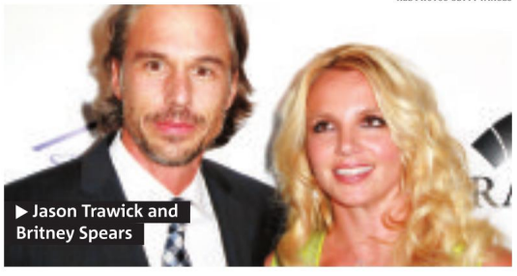
Scott Weiland, The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Naughty: The first half of this album finds the Stone Temple Pilots singer sounding like a drunk who would be featured on the gag-reel of the American Idol auditions episodes.
Nice: As the album goes along, Weiland sobers up, finds his footing and dresses up standards like What Child Is This and O Holy Night in jazzy and island rhythms, respectively.

The story behind Spears' engagement

Couple celebrates happy news with their closest paparazzi and publicists

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



▶ Jason Trawick and Britney Spears

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Thanks to giving up the reigns to her life to a court-appointed conservatorship (her father and a lawyer) and, well, I'm just guessing here, some big pharma mood-stabilizers, I believe Britney Spears is in a much happier and healthier head space than she's ever been.

It actually "seems" like things are back to normal for the star/robot. Which is why it's surprising to see her engagement to boyfriend and former agent Jason Trawick come across as the most orchestrated news item since Kim Kardashian's wedding.

After all, "normal" megawatt celebrities keep things like this private; only the ones with something to prove try to force it down our throats.

On Thursday, the two got engaged. And then they celebrated that engagement — and Trawick's 40th birthday — in Las Vegas on Friday night. And, wouldn't you know it? An army of photographers and publicists were at the ready.

They followed them through each perfectly-crafted event — from the two of them checking in to Planet Hollywood, then having dinner at Sugar Factory American Brasserie, to dancing at the Chateau nightclub (notice all of that product placement? I'm sure they all paid a pretty penny for this). The whole night was completely packaged for our enjoyment.

Sure, out of everything that Spears has been through, a formulated engagement is nothing.

It's just kind of sad that this living doll can't be a real person who celebrates real milestones authentically.

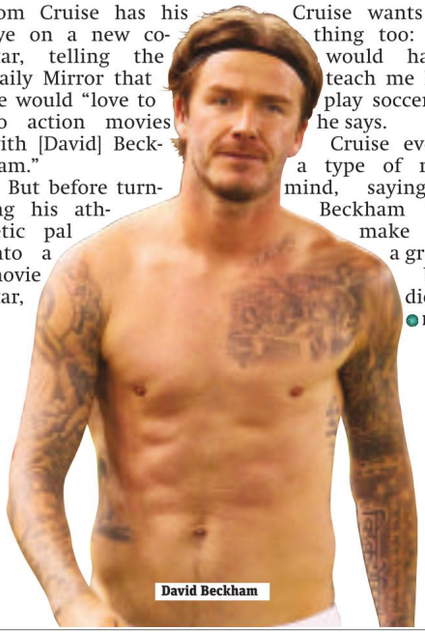
Does Cruise have a man crush on David Beckham?

Tom Cruise has his eye on a new co-star, telling the Daily Mirror that he would "love to do action movies with [David] Beckham."

But before turning his athletic pal into a movie star, Cruise wants something too: "David would have to teach me how to play soccer first," he says.

Cruise even has a type of role in mind, saying that Beckham "would make a great baddie."

METRO



David Beckham

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3 life

Lead warning

Health Canada is offering a reminder to shoppers who see children's jewelry on a wish list this holiday season.

It notes that high levels of lead and cadmium can be found in children's jewelry products and kids can ingest harmful amounts of the metals if they chew, suck or swallow the items. There's minimal lead absorption through the skin, so wearing the jewelry doesn't present a serious risk to health.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Holiday festivities can cause sensory overload for people with dementia.

A crafty Christmas

You don't have to take your kids to see Santa to get them into the Christmas spirit Include them in the preparations and let them get involved by helping create decorations for the house and making their own gifts and wrapping It's fun, cheap and creative

EMMA E. FORREST
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS

There are loads of good reasons for doing Christmas crafting: It's easy and cheap to make gifts and decorations from things you already have in the house, it's something fun to do when the weather's bad, and it keeps them out of the shops where they'd only nag you for the latest Harry Potter Lego set.

Christmas crafting is not just a practical way of whiling away cold winter afternoons, though. It offers a nice excuse for parents to spend quality time playing with their kids and creating festive rituals that bond the family together for years to come, from decorating the tree as a family to baking biscuits for grandma.

Make festive gifts. Chocolate truffles

makes about 20

▶ From Christmas Cooking with Kids by Annie Rigg (Ryland, Peters and Small).

Ingredients:

- 50g unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 75g light brown soft sugar
- 150ml double cream
- 175g dark chocolate

Toppings:

- 150g milk or dark chocolate, chopped
- Chocolate sprinkles
- Cocoa powder
- Edible silver balls
- Chopped nuts (hazelnuts or flaked almonds)

Preparation:

1. Ask an adult to help you put the butter, sugar and cream in a saucepan over a low heat. Leave until it comes to the boil and the sugar has melted.
2. Break the chocolate into small pieces and tip into a heatproof bowl. Carefully pour the melted butter mixture over the chocolate and sir until the chocolate is melted, smooth and shiny. Leave to cool, then cover with clingfilm and chill in the fridge until it's firm.
3. Making one truffle at a time, scoop a teaspoonful of the chocolate mixture and roll quickly between your hands into a ball. Place on a baking tray lined with baking parchment.
4. For the toppings, ask an adult to help you put the chocolate in a heatproof bowl over a pan of simmering water or in the microwave on a low setting. Stir very carefully until it has melted. Leave to cool slightly.
5. Sprinkle each of your chosen toppings (cocoa powder, chopped chocolate, sprinkles, edible silver balls, chopped nuts) onto a separate plate.
6. Scoop a teaspoonful of the melted chocolate into the palm of your hand and roll one truffle at a time into it to coat completely.
7. Roll in one of the toppings. Repeat with the remaining truffles and leave to set on the baking tray before serving or packing in a pretty box.

Create cards & wrapping paper. Potato printing

Ingredients:

- Medium-sized potato
- Star-shaped cookie cutter
- Chopping board
- Sharp knife (used by adult)
- Dry cloth
- Paints
- Plain white paper

Preparation:

1. Cut potato in half. Place cookie cutter on cutting board with sharp edge facing upwards. Press potato firmly down onto cutter, leaving cutter standing proud of cut surface of potato by about 5mm.
2. Ask an adult to cut away edges of potato using sharp knife. Press potato down onto a dry cloth to remove excess moisture.
3. Pour paint into saucer and use end of sponge paint roller to apply paint to star shape. Too much paint will make the design bleed. If you have applied too much, gently blot potato on kitchen paper to remove excess.
4. Begin printing. To ensure design prints clearly, use gentle rocking motion, moving potato from side to side without lifting from paper. This will apply paint evenly. Continue to print at evenly-spaced intervals. Allow paint to dry completely.

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Pockets of festive goodness

These Turkey Pocket Pies are a delicious way to truly get your appetizers looking like they belong in a Christmas season table spread

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

▶ This recipe makes six servings and the pies can easily be decorated to make them festive.

If the dough of the pocket pies gets too warm during preparation, refrigerate it for 15 minutes.

Use leftover dough to cut out shapes to decorate the top of the pies. Brush the back of the dough shapes with egg wash to affix and bake as directed.

Ingredients:

- 2 frozen deep-dish pie shells
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) finely chopped leftover turkey
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) cranberry sauce
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) grated cheddar cheese
- Pepper, to taste
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) milk

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 200 C (400 F). Remove pie shells from freezer and let thaw at room temperature for 10 minutes.
2. Put pie shells onto clean, flat, floured work surface. If cracks appear in pastry, press and repair using moistened fingers. Cut out 6 shapes from each pie shell using a 7-by-10-cm (2 3/4-by-4-inch) cookie cutter. Set any leftover dough aside.
3. In bowl, combine turkey, cranberry sauce, cheese and pepper. Divide mix evenly among 6 cut-outs, mounding in centre and leaving a 5-mm (1/4-inch) border and top with remaining cut-outs. Gently press edges together and crimp with a fork. Brush tops lightly with milk and bake for 12 mins. or until pastry is golden. Let pies rest for 10 minutes before serving. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ TENDERFLAKE

Rose Reisman's Swap It

Veggie dips are a standard during the holiday party season. With a wide variety of flavours, some may seem healthy but be careful because names can be deceiving.

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Quiche saves dinner on busy nights

The season is full of shopping, decorating, gift wrapping and entertaining ◐ This meal is quick and filling

Busy days filled with Christmas shopping, entertaining, decorating and wrapping gifts gives the cook in the house little time to prepare meals.

But it's important not to forget to enjoy a quick and easy dinner during this busy time.

With a pre-made pastry crust and the frozen veggies you have in the freezer, you can have a simple and quick quiche ready to enjoy with a crunchy green salad. This quiche is also a fine casual addition to any lunch.

Preparation:

1. Prepare pie crust according to package directions. Set aside and let cool.
2. In a large, flat-bottomed frying pan, melt butter and cook hash browns until crisp and golden brown. Remove from heat.
3. In a large bowl, mix together eggs, frozen vegetables, cheddar cheese, salt and pepper. Add cooled hash browns and mix well.
4. Pour egg mixture into cooled pie shell and bake in 190 C (375 F) oven for 35 to 40 minutes until golden brown.
5. Using oven mitts, remove from oven and serve. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ TENDERFLAKE/ THIS RECIPE WAS ADAPTED FOR METRO NEWS BY EMILY RICHARDS, A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients:

- 1 frozen pie crust
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) unsalted butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) shredded frozen hash browns
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 250 ml (1 cup) frozen Mediterranean-style vegetables
- 250 ml (1 cup) shredded cheddar cheese
- Pinch each salt and

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Be safe, be eco-conscious

Shovelling snow causes heart attacks every year ◗ And snow blowers aren't exactly friendly on the environment ◗ So, what to do?

BEN KNIGHT
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Shovelling snow is a pain in the back. The pushing, the lifting … the throwing.

Yes, a snow shovel is green and eco-friendly. It doesn't chew up power like electric or gas-powered snow blowers.

But injuries are a real risk — and clearing snow can be fatal, as well.

The Canadian Heart & Stroke Foundation estimates that over 16,000 Canadians die of heart attacks every year.

The Huffington Post has reported snow shovelling accounts for less than half of one per cent of fatal coronaries, but that's around 50 Canadians — annually — who go out to clear their snow, and never come back.

Snow blowers are an obvious alternative.

But they have an environmental impact — fossil fuel-powered ones especially.

"These blowers emit a ton of carbon emissions that pollute the air," notes Trish Smith, a popular blogger at greenopolis.com.

"(They) also use gasoline that can eventually wind up in our streams or in our soil, and that's no way treat our earth."

So is there a way to build a better shovel?

There's a broad variety of ergonomic snow shovels on the market.

Some have bent handles designed to ease the strain of lifting.

Others use wide blades and conjoined double handles to distribute and minimize physical stress.

And then there's the Sno Wovel — wovel.com — an innovative invention that combines a traditional shovel with a wheel.

"It's not only more efficient — there's a three-quarters reduction in exertion — but this takes the real pain out of shovelling, greatly reducing exertion and the risk of injury," says Mark Noonan, president of Nootools, who's been making and marketing Sno Wovels for the past six years.

Traditional shovels focus most of the physical force of lifting and throwing snow on the small of your back.

Adding a wheel moves the fulcrum away from the spine and onto the axle, cutting down on jarring and twisting.

"The shovel blade is actually angled at 45 degrees," Noonan adds. "That helps you throw more forward."

Shovelling snow is one of those rare cases where the greener solution can be significantly more dangerous than the power-burning alternatives.

Perhaps the best solution is to consider all the alternatives — and always remember to be careful.

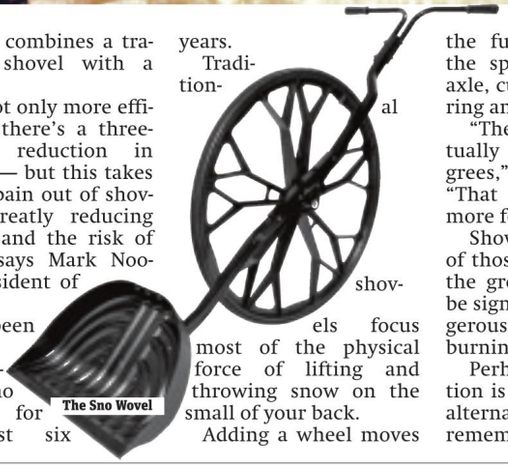
Local snowfall

Check it out Winnipeg:

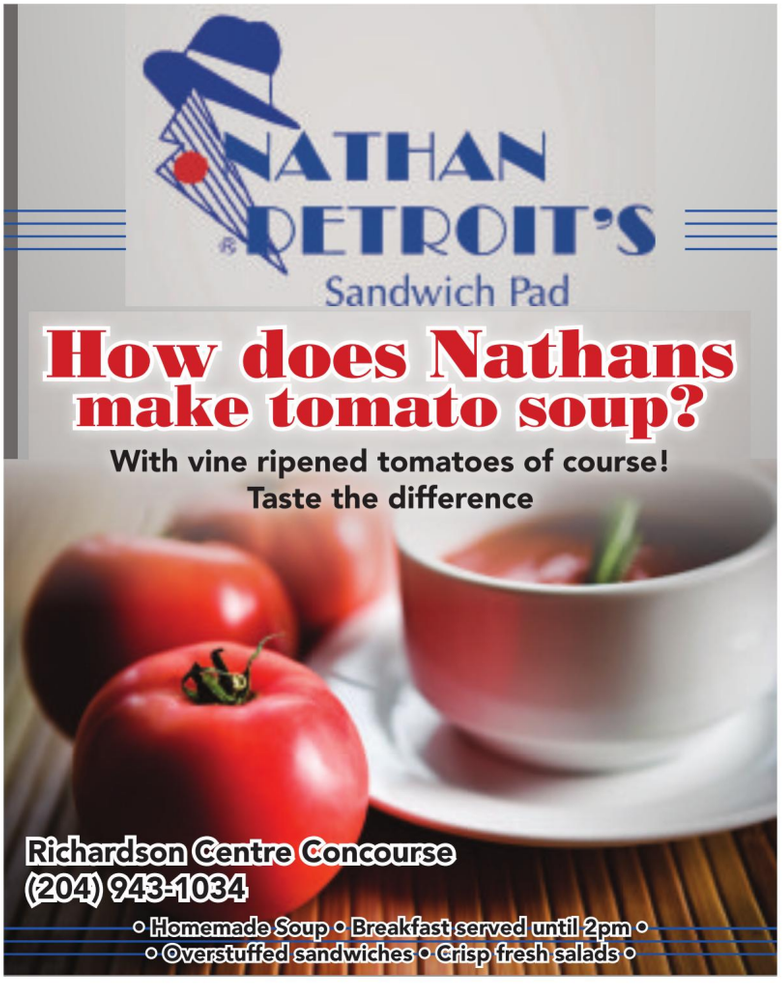
Snow Since 1971, Winnipeg has received an annual average snowfall of 110.6 cm — less than Edmonton (123.5), Calgary (126.7) and Toronto (133.1).

AARON LYNETT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Make your life easier when shovelling snow this winter.



The Sno Wovel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POWERING A CHANGE IN THINKING OVER BATTERIES

Where in Winnipeg can I dispose of batteries? *Cynthia of Winnipeg*

QUEEN OF GREEN

LINDSAY COULTER
GREEN@METRONEWS.CA

Dispose might as well be a four-letter word.

I know you really mean recycle. And recycling batteries has never been easier.

London Drugs stores in Western Canada, including Winnipeg, have committed to recycling batteries — single-use and rechargeable.

Check out their in-store recycling program, which also accepts packaging, cellphones, cameras, and small appliances (purchased at London Drugs).

Recycling fees might apply to items not purchased from the store.

Two excellent battery recycling know-it-all websites are Call2Recycle.ca and Earth911.com.

Just enter your postal code into their online drop-off locator.

You'll get a list of locations near you, ranked by proximity, with complete contact information and a map.

There's also no charge to recycle batteries from things like your remote control, cordless power tools, or calculator.

Next, make the switch to rechargeable batteries. Maximize their use by reading the instructions carefully.

It sounds obvious, but each product has specific guidelines when it comes to charging a battery for the first time.

A big no-no is returning a fully charged battery to the charger for an extra boost. This will only shorten its lifespan.

Also never leave batteries in your charger if they're not actually charging. Don't forget to recycle your rechargeable batteries when they're done.

And keep your eyes open for battery recycling drop-off boxes. The last one I saw was in my neighbourhood pharmacy.

Building from the ground up

A holiday season spent in jail led to a true turning point for this now successful construction foreman

TURNING POINT

Four years ago, Tony Kokol sat in a Federal Penitentiary having Christmas dinner with his Mom and Dad.

A life of recreational drug use had spun into addiction and some bad life choices put him behind bars.

"It got to the point where I lost everything; my career, health, credit and relationship. I realized, 'Oh my God, I've hit bottom.'"

"It got to the point where I lost everything; my career, my health, credit and relationship. I realized, 'Oh my God, I've hit bottom."

TONY KOKOL, FOREMAN AND SOON-TO-BE ADDICTIONS COUNSELLOR

Fresh Start Recovery Centre in Calgary proved to be a turning point in Tony's life.

He cleaned up, got into the construction business and worked his way up to foreman on Fresh Start's new facility. Now with the new building on the verge of being completed, Tony is training to become an addictions counsellor.

▶ Tony Kokol is currently working on constructing the Fresh Start Recovery Centre building in Calgary.

"My life is full and great. I'm blessed to be surrounded by people who have my back.

Every time I walk through our new building it validates the journey that I'm on."

Tony recently went out for lunch with his Mom. As she reached out to hug her son he realized how far he had come since that Christmas in jail four years ago.

"I put a smile on my mother's heart."

Recovery toolbox

- Fresh Start Recovery Centre **403 387-6266**
- Turning Point Detox Centre **1 877 523-8369**
- Alcoholics Anonymous - **aa.org**
- Narcotics Anonymous - **na.org**
- Living Clean Sunday nights at 11:30p.m. CTS-TV Bell ExpressVu 651, Shaw Direct 351

But what does education mean?

Inspired by a fellow theorist, renowned author Philip W. Jackson educates others on ther word 'education'

BRUCE WALSH
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
MWN IN PHILADELPHIA

At 83, Philip W. Jackson has authored dozens of books on education philosophy, including the 1968 classic Life in Classrooms, still used by education majors around the globe.

What Is Education? marks his return to the basic questions he pondered half a century ago, beginning with his initial fascination with seminal American education theorist, John Dewey.

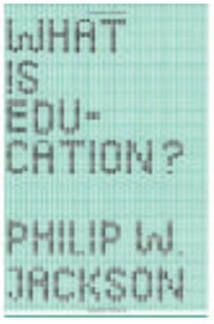
How has your philosophy of education evolved since you first encountered Dewey?

I read Dewey's 1938 (What Is Education?) speech when I was training to become a teacher. It puzzled me because he was addressing professional educators, and he implored them to consider that basic question.

I started to look at Dewey's early training as a philosopher. He was a Hegelian. So I tried to take Hegel seriously, and I eventually became more of a Hegelian than Dewey.

We hear a lot about the United States falling behind other countries in education.

The comparisons that are made — which place us unfavourably, according to some, on the international yardstick — do so only in subjects that are very easily measurable. It's in those subjects that the other nations are beating us, as it were. But we've been worried about that recurrently.



I feel that's unfortunate. It's shortsighted. Are we really helping our students become more thoughtful, better civic citizens? Are we helping them to become wiser, rather than just full of information? Those are more interesting questions.

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4 sports

Sports in brief

Mike McEwen triumphed in an all-Winnipeg BDO Canadian Open final on Sunday.

McEwen's rink beat Jeff Stoughton's team 5-2 in eight ends to win the $100,000 championship.

"In my opinion, other than a national championship, winning a Grand Slam is the pinnacle of our sport," said McEwen in a statement. "You're playing the 18 best teams in the world all at once, so anytime you can come out on top it's a really good feeling."

It was McEwen's second consecutive Canadian Open championship.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scan code for more sports news.

Packers denied perfection

Green Bay's 19-game win streak ended by Chiefs **Winning Super Bowl is real goal: Coach**

19	14
CHIEFS	PACKERS

WESLEY HITT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Packers QB Aaron Rodgers is sacked by Kansas City's Tamba Hall.

Mike McCarthy never put a whole lot of stock in a perfect season, except as a means of gaining home-field advantage and setting the Green Bay Packers up for another Super Bowl run.

Well, they still have a chance to earn home-field advantage.

The perfect season? That's history.

Kyle Orton threw for 299 yards to outduel Aaron Rodgers, and the Kansas City Chiefs rallied behind interim coach Romeo Crennel for a shocking 19-14 victory on Sunday that ended the Packers' 19-game winning streak. It was their first loss since Dec. 19, 2010, at New England.

"I personally always viewed the undefeated season as, really, just gravy," McCarthy said. "The goal was to get home-field advantage and win the Super Bowl. That's what we discussed.

"We were fortunate enough to be in the position to possibly achieve the undefeated season," he added, "but we still have the primary goal in front of us, and that's to get home-field advantage."

Green Bay, playing without leading receiver Greg Jennings and top rusher James Starks because of injuries, can wrap up the No. 1 seed in their final two games against Chicago and Detroit.

But the Packers no longer have the pressure of becoming the second team in NFL history to win a Super Bowl with a perfect record, or extending the second-longest winning streak in league history.

"I think our goal ultimate goal is to win a Super Bowl. The next step is getting that number one seed in the playoffs," Rodgers said. "We've got a home playoff game — we've got a bye secured."

Rodgers was 17 of 35 for 235 yards and a touchdown, and he also scampered 8 yards for another touchdown with 2:12 left in the game. But the Packers (13-1) were unable to recover the onside kick, and Kansas City picked up a couple of first downs to secure the victory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colts win

The Indianapolis Colts finally won without Peyton Manning. It just took 14 games and three quarterbacks to get there.

- Dan Orlovsky threw one touchdown pass, a key block on an 80-yard TD run and the Colts defence held Chris Johnson to 55 yards rushing, to beat Tennessee 27-13 and avoid becoming the second 0-16 team in league history.
- For the Titans (7-7), the loss was a devastating blow to their playoff hopes. Had the Titans closed out the season with three wins, they likely would have reached the post-season. Now they'll probably need help from other teams just to get in.

Patriots slow down Tebow in win

41	23
PATRIOTS	BRONCOS

Not this time, Tim Tebow. Tom Brady and the New England Patriots shut down Tebow's late-game heroics and clinched a playoff berth with a 41-23 victory over the Denver Broncos on Sunday.

The Patriots (11-3) won their sixth straight game and another AFC East title by bouncing back from an early 17-6 deficit and an awful first quarter in which they were outgained on the ground 167 yards to four.

This time, there was no last-minute magic from Tebow, who had guided the Broncos (8-6) to four straight fourth-quarter comebacks and six straight wins.

Instead of another slow start followed by a fantastic finish, the Broncos started out fast and then fizzled. They scored on their first three possessions and then were done in by a trio of second-quarter turnovers.

Champ Bailey had said the Broncos needed a big game against a big QB to prove to themselves and others that they were not just a curiosity but a contender.

They didn't get it on this day.

Denver has faced four quarterbacks currently ranked in the top-10 in yards passing — Aaron Rodgers, Matthew Stafford, Philip Rivers (twice) and Brady. They're 1-4 in those games.

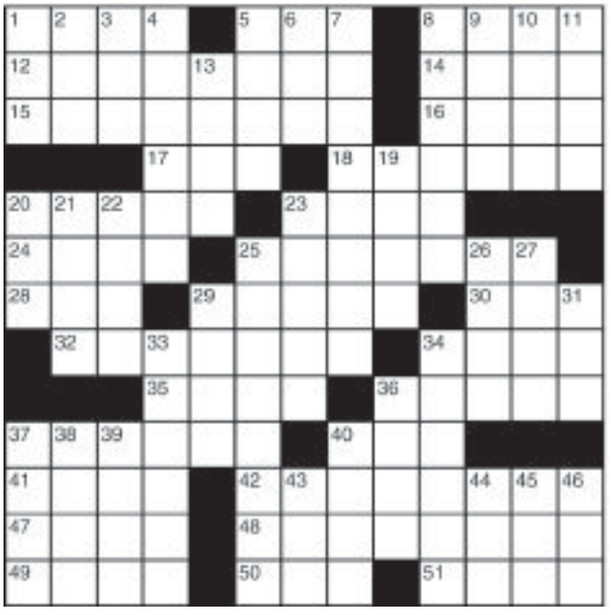
Brady, who was 23 of 34 for 320 yards with two TD passes and a touchdown run, made up for another bad day by the Patriots' defence to beat the Broncos for the second time in eight career starts — the only team with a winning record against the three-time Super Bowl champion.

With its first loss since Oct. 30, the AFC West-leading Broncos face a tougher path to the playoffs, with a trip to Buffalo next week followed by a season finale against Kansas City, which ended Green Bay's 19-game winning streak Sunday behind Kyle Orton, the player Tebow replaced in Denver.

Tebow fell to 7-2 as Denver's starter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crossword



Across

1 Bakery buys
5 Youngster
8 Treaty
12 Australian city
14 Reverberate
15 Like spreadsheets, e.g.
16 Slender
17 Scepter
18 Each
20 Hybrid eating utensil
23 Entanglement
24 Bohemian
25 Refrigerator decorations
28 Humour
29 Gave a darn
30 Regret
32 Grieved
34 Intentions
35 Primary
36 Sag
37 "— & Louise"
40 To and —
41 Emanation
42 Ivy League university
47 List of options
48 Catholic prayer
49 "Hey, you!"
50 Remiss
51 Je ne — quoi

Down

1 Atl. counterpart
2 Altar affirmative
3 Conger or moray
4 Wet cement mixture
5 Sort
6 Mrs. McKinley
7 Mad
8 Small
9 Liniment target
10 Stylish
11 Color quality
13 Beyond control
19 Frogs' hangout
20 Witnessed
21 Proper partner?
22 "Beetle Bailey" dog
23 Carpenter or Black
25 Crazed
26 Threesome
27 Japanese wrestling
29 Study all night
31 Kreskin's claim
33 Diacritical mark
34 Scents
36 Snare or tom-tom
37 Pack down tightly
38 Shades
39 Sea eagles
40 Show off your muscles
43 Eggs
44 Lingerie item
45 Midafternoon, on a sundial
46 Some small batteries

▶ Friday's answer

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Sudoku

		7	8	6		3		5
2		5	4					1
	9							
6		2			3			
		8				6		
			7			5		2
							1	
4					5	8		9
8		3		9	1	2		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Friday's answer ▶

5	7	6	4	1	3	8	9	2
8	3	9	6	2	5	7	4	1
1	4	2	8	7	9	3	6	5
2	6	5	3	9	8	1	7	4
4	8	7	1	5	2	9	3	6
9	1	3	7	4	6	2	5	8
3	9	4	5	8	1	6	2	7
7	2	8	9	6	4	5	1	3
6	5	1	2	3	7	4	8	9

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You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

My amazing, young n tall Prince Charming
My only love, my darling, true, sincere and strong love can move mountains! You have to trust and believe in yourself and follow your heart...and everything else will be taken care of by itself. Don't worry about me, I will wait for you as long as you want me to! You are always in my thoughts and dreams, with all my love and kisses...
FROM YOURS FOREVER, SHORT, PATIENT PRINCESS...

M74
I wanted to thank you for your love, beauty, and inspiration. That's all. Big, big love for everyone who's reading this as well! I wish everyone much happiness and wholesome lives for now and for the future. <3
FROM MILKY WAY GALAXY

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	THURSDAY
Min -9°	Min -6°	Min -18°
Max -6°	Max -1°	Max -4°

Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist
"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 5:30 A.M.**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Today's horoscope

♈ **Aries** **March 21-April 20** Misunderstandings could be expensive, so make sure those you work and do business with know what you are up to today.

♉ **Taurus** **April 21-May 21** Take life at a more measured pace over the next 24 hours.

♊ **Gemini** **May 22-June 21** Opportunities to prosper are all around, but you must be selective.

♋ **Cancer** **June 22-July 22** You seem to be a bit touchy at the moment, and that's bad news for anyone who gets on your wrong side.

♌ **Leo** **July 23-Aug.23** You can sense that something big is about to happen but you can't work out what it might be. Relax.

♍ **Virgo** **Aug. 24- Sept. 22** Why are you trying so hard to convince people that your ideas are best?

♎ **Libra** **Sept. 23-Oct. 23** What seems like a setback today will turn out to be a blessing in disguise before the end of the year, so don't waste time worrying about it.

♏ **Scorpio** **Oct. 24-Nov. 22** You will face some tough obstacles today, but being a Scorpio you will enjoy the challenge.

♐ **Sagittarius** **Nov. 23-Dec. 21** Your options may be limited at the moment but that's no bad thing.

♑ **Capricorn** **Dec. 22-Jan. 20** You will have to use up a lot of physical and mental energy to enjoy what is really quite a modest return. In which case, why bother?

♒ **Aquarius** **Jan. 21-Feb. 18** There are two ways you can get what you want: you can go it alone or you can partner up with people who share your ambitions. It's a no-brainer really.

♓ **Pisces** **Feb. 19-March 20.** Keep your mind focused on a particular target.

SALLY BROMPTON

CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Caption contest

MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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